



THE PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR

Journal of American Philatelic Society Writers Unit #30

On the Web: www.wu30.org

Third Quarter 2008

Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library Turns 15

A Tribute to The Past and The Future

By Peter W. F. Adgie

Take a schoolteacher, a chemist, a furniture dealer, a railway construction engineer, a television reporter, a carpenter, and a professional librarian. Add a heavy dose of philatelic lore. Bingo! You have the start of a collection of stamp-related materials that expands and develops — and exceeds all expectations.

Over a period of years, starting with Saturday *burrito* lunch meetings, these visionaries met in homes and basements; dreams were shared, hopes raised (and felled); and then came the call to action.

Don Beuthel, Bill Dunn, Jack Willard, Jim Ozment, and Roger Rydberg, signers of the original Articles of Incorporation, with the added professional gift of Ellengail Beuthel, launched their philatelic craft into the Rocky Mountain world. A corps of similarly dedicated people soon joined them.

In August 1993, thanks to the generosity of Dave Capra in donating a meeting place on South Peoria Street in Denver, Colorado, the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library was officially born. Financial gifts were needed and found. Volunteers stepped forward to serve as sorters, greeters, and presenters. At first, three days a week,



Welcome to the RMPL

Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library visitors are greeted with a congenial atmosphere as soon as they step through the front door, above. The facility is well lit and attractively organized. Among those who help ensure the library's success and value to researchers is Ellengail Beuthel, below, who has provided her invaluable cataloguing skills. She is now preparing an online version of RMPL's catalogue.



then expansion to four and, briefly seven! Disaster seemed to strike when the original donated space was needed for other businesses, the library temporarily moved into an adjacent smaller section later that year. That space then was lost and everything was placed into storage. The search began for a permanent home.

In May 1996, the building at 2038 South Pontiac Way was purchased with a mortgage and underwent a major renovation for several months. Steve Schweighofer, Jim Kilbane, Roger Rydberg (our first treasurer), Sergio Lugo, Bob Blatherwick (taking over as treasurer), Ron Mitchell, and 20 or more others joined with those early visionaries to create the highly professional library.

The RMPL was officially opened in its present site on August 3, 1996. None of these efforts would have been effective without the expertise of Ellengail Beuthel, who voluntarily provided her dedicated cataloguing and detailed reference skills. Unlike other philatelic libraries and research centers, RMPL has never paid its increasing and concerned staff. Virtually all of the philatelic materials, along with the furnishings to display and house them, have been donated.

Continued on Page 16



THE PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR

ISSN 0147-36456

Volume 42, No. 3, Whole No. 161

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Writers Unit #30, a nonprofit organization, publishes *The Philatelic Communicator* four times a year. A subscription to TPC is included with dues paid by members of the Unit. TPC is printed and distributed by Wilcox Printing & Publishing, Inc., Madrid, Iowa. Content ©2008 Writers Unit #30; Design ©2008 Albert W. Starkweather / Design on Demand.

Manuscripts are solicited on subjects of interest to writers, editors, and publishers of all forms of philatelic literature. All submissions for publication, without exception, are subject to being edited. Electronic submissions are preferred. Opinions expressed in *The Philatelic Communicator* are those of the authors, and not necessarily of Writers Unit #30, APS, its officers, editor, publisher, or agents. Letters and e-mails received by the editor may be printed unless labeled "Not for Publication."

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Deadlines for receipt of copy by the editor:

First Quarter: January 15; Second Quarter: April 15;

Third Quarter: July 15; Fourth Quarter: October 15

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Albert W. Starkweather
Editor's Domain

Morality Cannot Be Legislated

In a classic case of good intentions gone bad, New York Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo has pressured a number of U.S.-based Internet service providers (ISPs) into discontinuing or severely curtailing their newsgroup services. (See Heather Sweeting's article on Page 13.) At first this may seem of no importance to philatelists. However, Cuomo's actions have led to the loss of access to philatelic-related groups.



Andrew M. Cuomo

The son of former New York Governor Mario M. Cuomo and brother of ABC newsman Christopher (Chris) Cuomo has fallen into the classic trap of attempting to legislate morality or at least trying to force it on others, in this case targeting Internet child pornography. He clearly has ignored the lessons learned from *The Great Experiment* — Prohibition — which not only failed to stem American's consumption of alcohol, but also led to the growth of organized crime and its related vices, rum run-

ning, and the problems associated with bootleg alcohol produced without quality control oversight.

While Cuomo's intentions are admirable, he has resorted to shooting the messenger rather than seeking out and punishing the individuals responsible for these heinous acts.

The most insidious aspect of Cuomo's actions is that their cancerous growth could extend to other online services, including YouTube, e-mail censorship, and the spread of Big Brotherism — concepts usually associated with totalitarian nations.

His plans are ultimately doomed and may exacerbate the problem by driving it underground. Cuomo apparently also has overlooked the fact that the *Mac Daddy* of newsgroups — USENET.COM — is offering "unrestricted, anonymous access." Many similar fee-based services are making the same offer.

Although the ISPs were under no legal obligation to follow Cuomo's aims, they quickly fell, into lockstep. Along the way they shed themselves of one of the services they provided without lowering their Internet service charges, meaning customers are paying the same to get less. As Heather suggests, subscribers should let their ISPs know how displeased they are with the curtailed services.





Peter Martin *My Message*

StampShow 2008 and WU #30 Breakfast

The American Philatelic Society's *STAMPSHOW 2008* will be August 14–17 in the three-year-old, 540,000-square-foot Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, the capital of Connecticut. It is the largest meeting space of its kind between New York City and Boston.

The Marriott Hartford Downtown, 100 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT 06106, is the show hotel and the site for the Writers Unit #30 breakfast on Sunday, August 17, at the usual 8:30 a.m. time. Tickets are \$27 each and may be obtained from the APS by calling 814-933-3803 for reservations. The Marriott, which is interconnected to the Convention Center, is located at Adriaen's Landing, a new 30-acre riverside complex that is surrounded by downtown Hartford.

Featured speaker will be David E. Failor, United States Postal Service Executive Director for Stamp Services. His presentation will be followed by a question and answer period.

Breakfast Treats

Attendees at the *STAMPSHOW 2008* breakfast are in for some extra treats beyond the normal activities. Chris Calle, a noted stamp designer for the USPS and other countries who resides in Connecticut, will again produce a special event cachet that will be stamped and presented to all attendees. An added bonus will be given to the first 50 members through the door — a copy of J. W. Scott's *Metropolitan Philatelist*, an 1890s monthly publication. There will also be more than 20 philatelic literature door prizes.


WU #30 Board Meeting

The Writers Unit #30 Board will meet at 10 a.m., right after the conclusion of the WU #30 breakfast. I'll have a report in the next *PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR*.

Writers Unit History

In last quarter's column I mentioned that WU #30 Historian Steven Rod and I are spearheading an effort to document the 40-year history of the unit. For those that missed it, I'm repeating our request for photos, ephemera, articles or stories related to the history of the organization. Please contact one of us via the addresses in the masthead. Photos of founders and officers are a particular need.

Position Opening

With the untimely death of Vice President East Barth Healey we have an opening for a coordinator of the WU #30 outreach program whereby we try to place articles in the nonphilatelic press. If you have an interest in this position, please contact me at PMARTIN2020@AOL.COM. 



APS STAMPSHOW 2008
AUGUST 14 TO 17
HARTFORD CONVENTION CENTER

**Please join us for our 73rd
Writers Unit Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 17

- More than 20 philatelic literature door prizes
- The first 50 guests will receive a copy of J. W. Scott's "*Metropolitan Philatelist*," his 1890s monthly publication

Tickets \$22 until July 13 & \$27 Thereafter
Call 814-933-3803 for Reservations

Speaker: David Failor
USPS Executive Director of Stamp Services
PROMOTING U.S. STAMP COLLECTING



David Failor ...

was appointed USPS Executive Director of Stamp Services in November 2002.

He is responsible for all aspects of the stamp program, including design, manufacturing, and distribution of 35 billion stamps per year.

He also serves as a member of the Coordinating Committee for the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum.



Short Takes News & Commentary

ASDA Has New Director

Matthew Hansen is the ASDA's new Executive Director. He has more than 20 years experience with Harry Hansen Management, a family-owned association management firm, with not-for-profit member-driven associations and trade shows. As in the case of his two predecessors, Hansen is not a philatelist. He may be reached at MVHANSEN@ASDAONLINE.COM or by phone at the ASDA office, 516-759-7000.

Griffenhagen, Cartiers Leaving ATA

The American Topical Association has announced that Executive Director Ray Cartier and his wife would retire at the end of his contract later this year. George B. Griffenhagen also has announced that he will step down as editor of *Topical Time*, a position he has held for 17 or 18 years, by 2009. A search committee is being appointed to seek replacements for the Cartiers and Griffenhagen. The ATA's board decreed color use in the journal, necessitating computer facility for the editorial position.

87th PHLNDX Update

The 87th update to the PHLNDX project was issued to the APRL in late May. This update includes more than 5,000 journal title entries. This raises the database above 240,000 entries and puts us on track to pass the quarter-million mark by year's end. This update includes a great deal of information from the immediate period before World War II, as well as keeping up with current publications. A file compiled by the late Fritz Billig in the 1930s, before his hurried relocation from Vienna to the U.S. and housed for many years in the Collectors Club library has been mined for a large number of references to articles written in German beginning in the 1860s and continuing up to 1935. These entries deal with a number of European countries.

— Gene Fricks

Steven Rod Absent Again

Steven J. Rod again was unable to submit his *Rod of History* column for this issue because of other commitments. He promises to return in the fourth quarter issue of the *COMMUNICATOR*.

Journals Publication Resumed

Excelsior!, journal of the Empire State Postal History Society, and *Astrophile*, journal of astrophilately for the Space Topic Study Group of ATA and APS, have resumed publishing after long delays.

The semiannual *Excelsior!*, edited by David E. Williams of Louisville, KY, is two issues behind. Williams has indicated that the journal will be back on track by September 2009, but needs articles. Query him at DAVIDEWILLIAMS@INSIGHTBB.COM.

The bimonthly *Astrophile*, edited by Jim Roth of Colorado Springs, CO, is four issues behind. He also needs articles. Query him at SPACEUNITEDITOR@COMCAST.NET.

George Griffenhagen's Wife Dies at 81

Joan Helen Houston Griffenhagen, 81, of Vienna, VA, wife of WU #30 Secretary-Treasurer George B. Griffenhagen died on June 23, two days before their 62nd anniversary. She was diagnosed with cancer in July 2007 and transferred to hospice care on May 6.

She was born in London, England, on December 1, 1926. Joan was evacuated to Northampton at the age of 12 on September 1, 1939, at the outbreak of World War II to avoid the heavy bombing of London. She returned to London at the age of 16 where she was a receptionist at General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters. In March 1944, she met Griffenhagen who was preparing to land on June 6, 1944 during the invasion of Normandy.

After the end of the war, she became engaged to George and flew to New York City. The Griffenhagens were married June 21, 1946 in Hoboken, NJ. They lived for four years in Fresno and Los Angeles, where she took several courses at the University of Southern California while George was completing his education. She was granted U.S. citizenship on July 14, 1950.

In December 1950 they moved to northern Virginia where they have lived ever since. For a dozen years she was a Chief Judge for the Fairfax County Electoral Board. She became involved in several bridge clubs, knitting for the family, and caring for her dogs. She returned on several occasions to visit her family in London and traveled with her husband to many countries around the world. Her favorite trips were cruises that visited Tahiti and Hawaii.

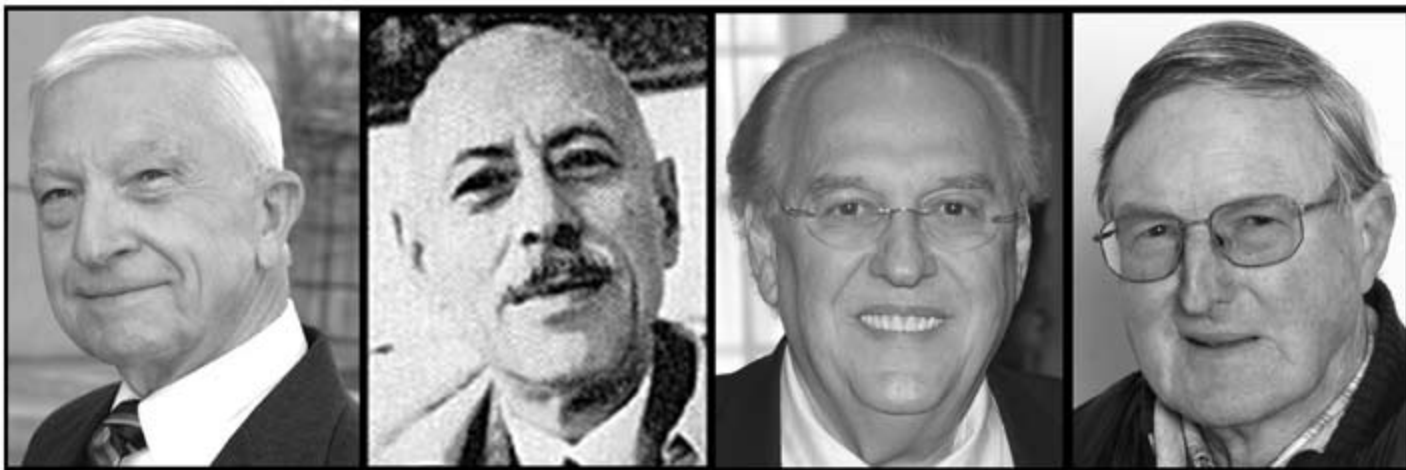
Three children, Gary Griffenhagen, Gordon Griffenhagen, and Barbara Commerce; seven grandchildren; and twin great-grandsons also survive her. Burial was at National Memorial Park, Falls Church, VA. Donations in her name may be made to any animal welfare organization.



Joan Griffenhagen

Expert Help for Writers and Editors

Charles J. Peterson, Writers Unit #30 past president, offers free critiques of periodicals and books / manuscripts. Submit the four most recent issues, including postage equivalent to four times the first class mailing fee. Any unused amount will be returned. Critiques can be expected in about 30 days. Inquire before sending books and manuscripts, providing a brief description. Return time will vary, depending on length and other commitments. Include a SASE. Send to Peterson at P. O. Box 5559, Laurel, MD 20226. His phone is 301-776-9822; e-mail CJP7777@AOL.COM.



Thomas J. Alexander, Pandelis J. Drossos, Robert F. Dumaine, and Robin M. Startup

2008 Writers Unit #30 Hall of Fame Inductees

Four new members of the Writers Unit #30 Hall of Fame have been named. This year's class — Thomas J. Alexander, the late Pandelis J. Drossos, Robert F. Dumaine, and Robin M. Startup — will be inducted at the Writers Unit breakfast in Hartford, CT on August 17 during APS *STAMPSHOW 2008*.

The awards are presented in recognition of outstanding service and scholarship by authors, editors, and publishers. A plaque on public display at the American Philatelic Research Library in Bellefonte, PA, displays the names of the honorees.

Thomas J. Alexander

Thomas Jefferson Alexander is a retired lawyer and a resident of Kansas City, Missouri, where he was born. He has contributed more than 200 articles to the *Chronicle* of the United States Philatelic Classics Society, the American Philatelic Congress' *Congress Book*, and the *American Philatelist*. His writing reveals his philatelic research and reporting in such areas as postal markings, rates, and the printing of 19th century United States stamps. He authored a landmark book recording a census of 1847 issue covers as well as books describing exhibits at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum. For more than 20 years he edited the 1851–1861 section of the *Chronicle*.

He is a trustee of the Philatelic Foundation and has served as vice president, president, and board member of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, where he has also chaired several committees. He was honored with many honors from the Classics Society for his research, writing, and service, including the Ashbrook, Chase, and Brookman Cups, and the Cryer Award.

Alexander has also served on and chaired several committees of the American Philatelic Society. Other honors bestowed on him include the APS Luff Award for research, the Collectors Club Lichtenstein Memorial Award, and the Smithsonian Philatelic Achievement Award. He is past chairman of the National Postal Museum's Council of Philatelists' research committee.

He continues his research work to this day with a major project to analyze recently discovered Post Office Department records pertaining to the printing of U.S. stamps from 1847 to 1910.

Pandelis J. Drossos

Pandelis J. Drossos was born May 4, 1900, in Greece. He died May 10, 1996, at the age of 96. Drossos had a worldwide reputation and was known as *The Ambassador of Greek Philately*. He was the preëminent authority on the stamps and postal history of Greece and the Ionian Islands. He was a world famous stamp dealer, a prolific writer and an exhibitor of the stamps and postal history of Greece. Drossos wrote his first philatelic article in 1920, won his first international medal in 1930, and became a full-time dealer in 1932. Throughout his career, he wrote extensively about Greek and related stamps, and about Greek social and postal history. Aerophilately was one of his special interests and he was a pioneer in the field.

Between 1946 and 1987, Drossos wrote 13 major research articles in the American Philatelic Congress' *Congress Book*, the most by any author and his five decades with at least one article ties the APC record. His 1964 *Congress Book* article, "The Greek Military Occupation Stamps of the Dodecanese," received the APC Walter R. McCoy Award for the best article in the 1964 volume.

He was a commissioner for Greece for many international exhibitions from 1938 to 1970. Drossos was inducted into the American Air Mail Society Aerophilatelic Hall of Fame in 1990 and the American Philatelic Society Hall of Fame in 1997.

Robert F. Dumaine

Robert F. Dumaine of Sugar Land, Texas, was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. He operates Sam Houston Philatelics in Houston and has been a professional stamp dealer and auctioneer since 1976. As the preëminent authority on duck and conservation stamps, his encyclopedic knowledge of the subject has made him the primary resource for duck stamp information. He regularly reports discoveries of duck stamp varieties and errors.

Dumaine is the coauthor with Eric Jay Dolin of the gold medal winning *The Duck Stamp Story*, which traces the history of the federal duck stamp program and the stamps that have been issued. He was a duck stamp columnist for *Linn's Stamp News*.

Continued on Page 17

PowerPoint Imaging for Digital References and Studies

By Francis Adams

Part V

If you are unable or do not wish to work with graphics programs to modify images, Microsoft PowerPoint is an option provided you already have basic images for your Digital Philatelic Study (DPS). PowerPoint has several functions to enhance graphics, but are by no means equivalent to those in fuller featured graphics programs. However, they will be useful if this is the only method you have.

Note: The following instructions were developed using a Macintosh version of PowerPoint. Menus in the Windows version may not be exactly the same, but the methods will be very similar.

Got Image?

Organization is always first. Put all images for your study into a single folder and make a back-up copy of the folder before touching the contents. When you've finished, you can begin working.

To modify an image, you must first get it onto a slide — it's easy:

1. Click the mouse pointer in the *Content* box on the slide.
2. Choose *Insert* ► *Picture* ► 'From File. (Fig. 1)
3. Navigate to the folder holding your images.
4. Select the desired image file. (Fig. 2)

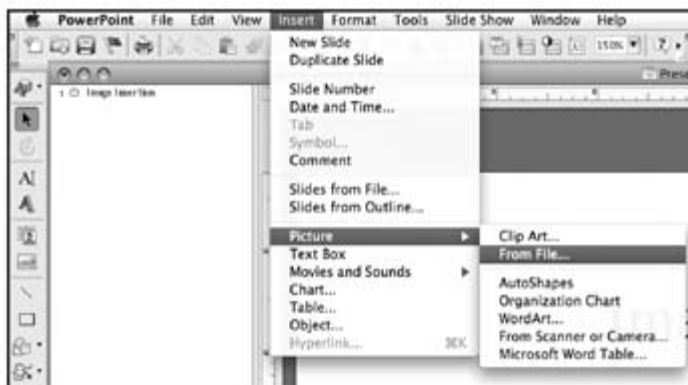


Fig. 1 Find Image



Fig. 2 Select Image

5. Click *Insert*.
6. Move the image to the desired position on the slide. (Fig. 3)



Fig. 3 Position Image

Note: Use a background image only on the title slide.

Photoshop Challenged?

Let's pull up the PowerPoint tool palette for image modification. With this palette, we have the option to modify the chosen image with commands directly from the palette. (The same commands can be accessed from the main menu.) There are two identical images, the top one is for reference and the bottom one will be modified.

Options shown here are directly related to modifying an image showing a philatelic item. Additional enhancements such as drawing lines, geometric shapes, watermarking, etc. for display purposes may be included in a future article. As to the sequence of the options being presented, I'm going through the options from top to bottom — there's no other method to my madness.

The Formatting Palette

1. Select **View** ► *Formatting Palette*. (Fig. 4)



Fig. 4 Formatting Palette

Making an Image (Semi) Transparent

1. Select the image.
2. Choose the *Fill and Line* ► *Fill* option.
3. Change the *Transparency* setting number. The image becomes more transparent with higher numbers. (Fig. 5)



Fig. 5 Transparency Setting



Fig. 8 Line Type

Outlining an Image

1. Select the image.
2. Choose the **Fill and Line** ► **Line** option.
3. Change the **Line Color** box (to blue in this case). (Fig. 6)

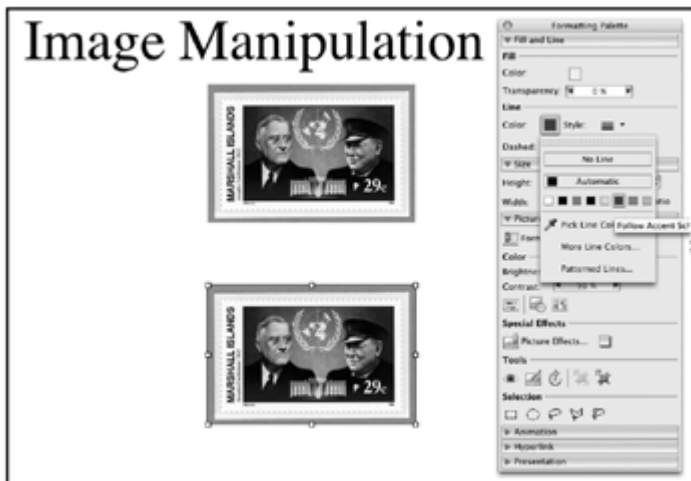


Fig. 6 Line Color

4. Change the **Line Width** box (to 3 pixels in this case). (Fig. 7)



Fig. 7 Line Width

5. Change the 'Line Type' box (to dashed in this case). (Fig. 8)

Changing Image Size

1. Select the image.
2. Select the **Size** option.
3. Change the **Height** or **Width** setting. (Fig. 9)



Fig. 9 Image Size

Note: If **Aspect Ratio** is not enabled, height and width will not change properly.

Rotating an Image by Degrees

1. Select the image.
2. Select the **Size** option.
3. Change the **Degree of Rotation** setting. (Fig. 10)

Brightness and Contrast Adjustments

1. Select the image.
2. Select the **Picture** ► **Color** option.
3. Change the **Brightness** setting to the desired level. (Fig. 11)
4. Change the **Contrast** setting to the desired level. (Fig. 12)

Note: Adjust **Brightness** first for the "lightness" of the image. Adjusting **Contrast** will change the "blackness" setting and this should be done only after adjusting **Brightness** to get the best results. These manipulations may adversely affect the image's true colors.

Continued on Page 8



Fig. 10 Rotation by Degrees

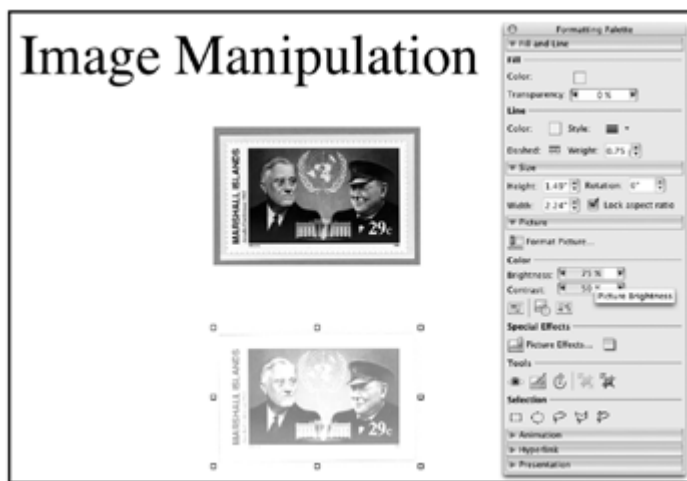


Fig. 11 Brightness Setting



Fig. 12 Contrast Setting

Color Adjustment

1. Select the image.
2. Select the *Color Adjustment* option.
3. The *Color Adjustment* window appears,
4. Click on the *Pre-sets* to view the change. (Fig. 13)
5. If desired, choose and adjust individual colors as desired.



Fig. 13 Color Adjustment

Changing from Color to Grayscale

1. Select the image.
2. Select the *Image Control* option.
3. Select the *Grayscale* option. The image discards the color components and changes to grayscale. (Fig. 14)



Fig. 14 Grayscale

Artistic Image Effects

1. Select the image.
2. Select the *Special Effects* option.
3. The *Effects Gallery* window appears.
4. Select the desired effect to be applied to the image. (Fig. 15)



Fig. 15. Image Effects Window

Applying a Shadow

1. Select the image.
2. Select the *Special Effects* ► *Shadow* option. (Fig. 16)

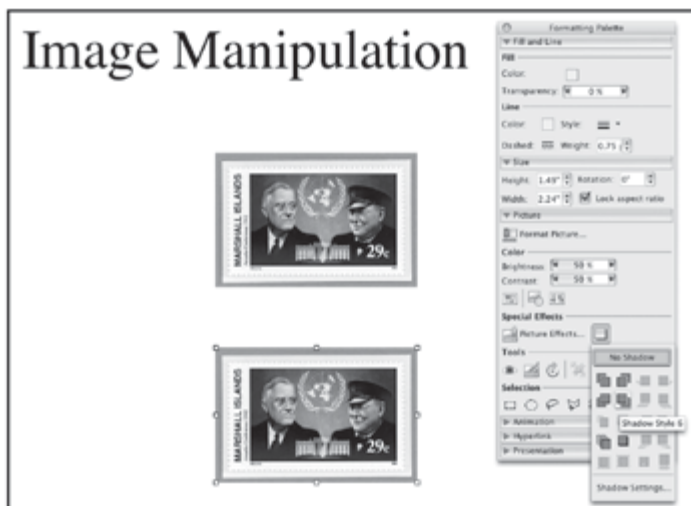


Fig. 16 Shadows

3. Choose the *Shadow Type* and *Orientation*. (Fig. 17)

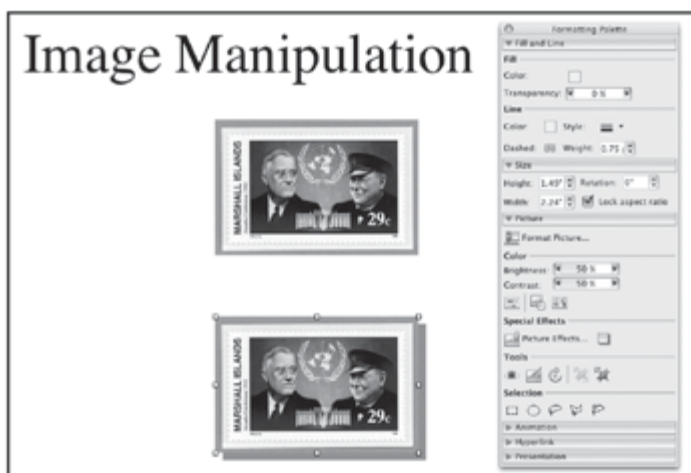


Fig. 17 Applied Shadow

Cropping an Image

1. Select the image.
2. Select the *Crop Tool* button.
3. Lines and handles around the image appear.
4. Dragging lines to a desired position will change the portion of the image displayed. (Fig. 18)

Conclusion

Newer versions of PowerPoint offer additional graphics tools, watermarks and image compression being two of the more important ones. Regardless of the level of the study, some image modification is required to complete a DPS and we hope the preceding information was helpful for those collectors believing that only professional graphic artists can work with images. That is not true — anyone can do this.

We'll look at developing layouts and master templates for our DPS as our next area of interest. Watch for this article in the fourth quarter issue of *THE PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR*.



Fig. 18 Cropping an Image

Thanks

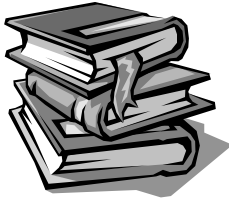
My sincere thanks are extended to Alan Campbell and Richard Maisel for their continuing support in reviewing drafts of these articles and suggesting subjects for discussion.

Additional articles on digital philatelic references are: "Creating Digital References and Studies" (*PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR*, Second Quarter 2007), "Planning Digital References and Studies" (*PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR*, Fourth Quarter 2007), "Formatting Digital References and Studies" (*PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR*, First Quarter 2008), and "Preparing Content for Digital References and Studies" (*PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR*, Second Quarter 2008).

September 25–27, 2009
Empire State Plaza, Albany



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Reviews Print and Electronic

Books & Catalogues

Echoes of a Bygone Era

***Camp Genter: Colorado Ghost Mail / Origins and Operations of a 4th Class Post Office* by John H. Willard and Sergio Lugo. 110 pages, 8½ × 11 inches, case or perfect bound. ©2008 Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. \$40 postpaid for case bound, \$30 for perfect bound from the publisher at 2038 S. Pontiac Way, Denver, CO 80224.**

This volume is the poster child for production of an exceptional monograph with a high-end color copier/printer. It includes 42 illustrations, of which 32 are in color, and 27 letters and documents, also in color. *Camp Genter* examines a little-known aspect of Colorado's marble quarrying operations in the Crystal River Valley — the contentious relationship between the irascible postmaster of a tiny post office, the U.S. Post Office Department, and the Crystal River & San Juan Railroad that provided service to the quarries and Railway Mail Service (RMS) to the small communities along its route.

The CR & SJ connected the mining camps along the river to the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railway connection at Carbondale. The local carrier is notable for the fact that it transported marble for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, including the largest block of marble ever quarried. To learn more about the CR & SJ itself, see the July 2003 issues of *Model Railroader* and *Trains Magazine*, both of which failed to mention the RMS aspects of its service.

Edward Genter, who operated a small mountainside coal mining operation, established Camp Genter in 1923 or 1924. When the CR & SJ began carrying mail from Carbondale south to Marble in January 1925, ending star route service — meaning patrons had to go to Carbondale or Marble to retrieve their mail, Genter quickly lobbied for a post office at Camp Genter. The fourth class office opened in March. Postmaster Genter died in late 1928 and the office was closed in mid January 1930. Diminishing returns from the mines and quarries led to the railroad's abandonment in January 1943.

The story might have been untold if co-author John H. Willard had not found a cache of correspondence — the Camp Genter Post Office papers — in the basement of a building in Carbondale, where

his employer, the Public Service Company of Colorado, had of office space. The retired electrical engineer made the discovery in 1958, but the story remained unwritten until recently. While few covers with the Camp Genter postmark exist, the papers present a fascinating picture of Edward Genter's frustrating efforts to ensure timely mail delivery by the train he scornfully dubbed *The Marble Flyer*, and of USPOD and RMS officials who had to deal with the prickly postmaster.

The first chapter of the book deals with the discovery of the papers and the area's ghost town heritage and discovery of the Camp Genter papers, while the second chapter explores star route service, the growth of mining and quarrying operations, and the necessity of railway mail service. Both are lavishly illustrated with historic images when the operations were active during the first quarter of the 20th century and those taken by Willard in the 1950s. The next chapter explores the RMS, which is followed by Genter's efforts to get approval for a post office.

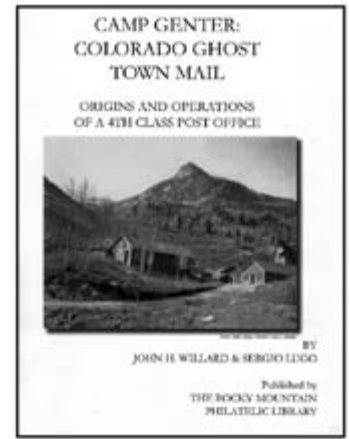
However, it is the fifth chapter — "The Bureaucratic Side of Post Office Operations" — that explores Genter's ongoing wrangle in a barrage of letters to the USPOD and the RMS that provides a true insight into operations of the short-lived post office. The papers to and from the three parties, which are called out in the text, are reproduced in an appendix. They are a testimonial to the POD and RMS officials who responded to Genter's acerbic, sarcastic, and often flippant prose.

Most of his venom was directed at missed and irregular service by the railroad which interrupted the smooth flow of business correspondence and necessities for his community.

Typical of Genter's writing is a letter sent on March 4, 1925, opening day of his post office: "... I hope that it will in no way interfere with the inaugural ceremony in Washington. However, I am sure that Cal (President Calvin Coolidge) would gladly postpone the presidential event if he had knowledge of the conflicting dates."

The final chapter explores Camp Genter and the CR & SJ's demise. My only complaint is that the pages and binding of the soft cover edition separate if the book is laid flat to an inside spread.

— Albert W. Starkweather



Aeropostal History of Chile

***Handbook of Aeropostal History of Chile 1916–2006* by Dr. Eduardo Madsen. ©2007 by the author, 698 pages, A4 format, soft cover. 72€ including surface postage or 82€ by airmail worldwide from Dr. Eduardo Madsen, Albrecht-Duerer Strasse 15, D-65195 Wiesbaden, Germany; e-mail: emadsen@t-online.de**

The aeropostal history of Chile began on December 10, 1916, when civil pilot David Fuentes was commissioned by the postal administrator of Ancud, Chiloé Island, to carry mail on a first flight from Ancud to Puerto Montt.

This handbook follows *80 Años de Historia Aeropostal en Chile*

1919–1999, published in Spanish by the author in 2001. The new book has the following chapters in both English and Spanish:

1. Mail dispatched on first, inaugural, special and occasional flights 1916–2006;
2. Special and instructional hand stamps on letters and post cards forwarded on scheduled flights 1930–2006;
3. Post card at reduced airmail surtax during Christmas and New Year seasons 1932–1941;
4. Mail by airships Graf Zeppelin & Hindenburg 1930–1937;
5. Crashed aircraft mail 1928–1965;
6. 1928 and 1931 airmail stamps 1st day of issue;
7. Domestic and international flight schedules 1927–1948;
8. Santiago to Europe airmail dispatches 1928–1941;
9. Megallanes to Europe airmail dispatches 1929–

1949; and 10. LC Postal rates and airmail surtaxes 1927–2003.

Chapters 1 to 5 are from the previous book and were amended and supplemented mainly through contributions by readers of that book. Postal events are illustrated both with cachets and the corresponding covers. Later research allowed drawing up Chap-

ters 6 to 10, and the original 113 quoted publications in the 80 *Años* bibliography increased to 221 in the new handbook.

The book is a monumental effort in covering the airmail of a small country.

— Ken Sanford

Moving Mail by Steamboat

U.S. Contract Mail Routes by Water (Star Routes 1824–1875) by Hugh V. Feldman. 403 pages, 8½ × 11 inches, perfect bound. ©2008 Collectors Club of Chicago. \$75 postpaid to the United States (other countries add \$10) from the Collectors Club of Chicago, c/o Duane Larson, P. O. Box 415, Park Forest, IL 60466.

This book is a feast for the eyes as it is attractively designed and lavishly illustrated, mostly in color. Its concept is simplicity itself, tracing the contract routes state by state during expanded use of steamboats before the Civil War and their decline thereafter as railroads became the preferred method of moving the mail.

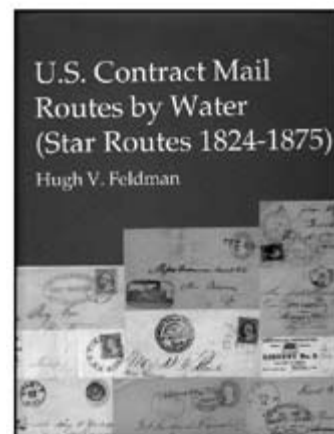
Each route is accompanied by a period map overlaid with a line delineating its course, callouts for the ports of call, and often examples of covers carried on the route. Information includes route number, contractor, cost, dates of service, frequency of service, and vessels used. Feldman's arrangement of routes within the states is perplexing. They are not arranged by location, waterway, route number, beginning contract date, or contractor. This means readers must rely on a gazetteer that omits names of waterways.

A route table and page location for each state would be useful.

The gazetteer and map callouts raise another problem — that of many spelling errors. Among the problems in the New York State section is the misspelling of Ithaca as *Ithica*, Lake Chautauqua as *Chautauque*, and misidentification of Alexandria Bay as simply *Alexandria*. In most instances the map beneath the callouts shows the correct spellings.

For the price of the book one should expect better editing, as the errors call into question validity of the information it contains. Hopefully, the host of errors will be corrected in future editions, as the book contains information unavailable anywhere else.

— Albert W. Starkweather



Antarctic Expeditions Postcards

Postcards of Antarctic Expeditions: A Catalogue 1898–1958 (second edition) by Margery Wharton. 362 pages, 6½ × 9¼ inches, case bound. ©2007 by the author. Available for approximately \$60 from the author 18 Millfield Rise, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex TN40 1QY, United Kingdom.

Wharton's first edition was first published in 1998. The new edition revises and updates it in a slightly larger format, as well as containing nearly 100 more pages. The catalogue is for reference only and does not include value or scarcity data.

These picture post cards were issued to promote and celebrate many important expeditions to Antarctica from the end of the 19th century up to the end of the 1958 International Geophysical Year. More recent cards and modern reprints of older ones are not included. The cards are listed chronologically by expedition and assigned catalogue reference numbers using a letter for the expedition followed by a number for each distinct post card.

The first entry is that for the cards pertaining to the *Belgica* expedition of 1897–1899 led by Adrien Victor de Gerlache. Each card is illustrated and the description includes any caption printed on the card followed by an English translation if the original is in another language. Several sets of cards exist for the *Belgica* expedition and the publishers are identified along with a useful description such as undivided back for the address side. Five different sets of cards are shown along with a number of privately issued cards.

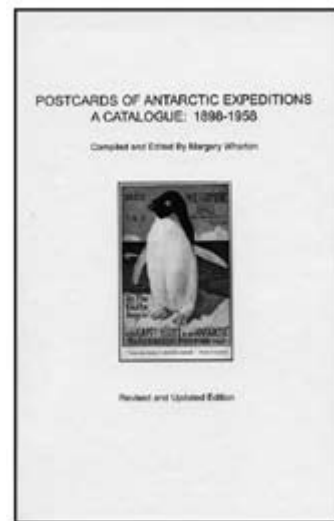
The same treatment is used to describe post cards of the remaining expeditions of Drygalski, Nordenskjöld, Scott, Charcot, Shackleton, Amundsen, Shirase, Mawson, Byrd, Ellsworth, Hillary, and many others. Each expedition's cards are introduced with a short

summary of the purpose of the venture and its dates. The expeditions are grouped in three categories: continental exploration 1893–1918, the whaling period and early air exploration 1919–1942, and establishment of permanent stations and their scientific activity through the IGY 1943–1958.

Although Wharton owns many of the cards, she has relied on copies and scans from others to fill in some gaps. The beauty of the catalogue is not only the black and white illustrations — the way many of the cards were issued, but also the brief section of color reproductions.

As mentioned, the *Belgica* cards are identified with the letter A and the listing proceeds to W for the 1947 Chilean Antarctic expedition. At the end of this main listing are several groups of cards that commemorate more than one expedition. Handy reference tools at the end of the book are an alphabetical listing of captions, and lists of surnames and ships with cross references. A bibliography concludes this wonderfully illustrated catalogue of cards that record famous expeditions to the white continent. Now that picture post cards are sanctioned for exhibiting at national shows in the United States, this catalogue will be important for collectors of such material.

— Alan Warren



New Advertising Postal Cards Handbook

United States Multiple Advertising and Discount Postal Cards
edited by Bill Falberg. 184 pages, 8½ × 11 inches, hardbound.
©2007 United Postal Stationery Society. \$45 (\$36 members),
P. O. Box 3982, Chester, VA 23831, www.upss.org.

David G. Nussmann, Charles A. Fricke, and George C. Norton originally published this comprehensive handbook in 1982 as limited photocopies. The authors gave their permission to the United Postal Stationery Society to update this important work to expand on the many and varied usages of these cards.

Multiple advertising postal cards contained advertisements from more than one business while discount postal cards were sold to the public for less than what the post office charged. Although these definitions suggest two distinct collecting possibilities, the relationship between the two is intertwined and to collect one area is impossible. Throughout the book are examples of discount cards containing multiple advertising. Falberg even goes so far as to warn that to ignore one aspect would cloud the understanding of the historical context of a particular card and the business that was advertised on the card.

A total 94 card types by 35 different businesses are examined. The period covered by this book spans the years 1873 with the introduction of G. W. Simmons Oak Hall, Boston cards and ending with the Allentown cards in 1913. The comprehensive listings detail all the known varieties; most are illustrated.

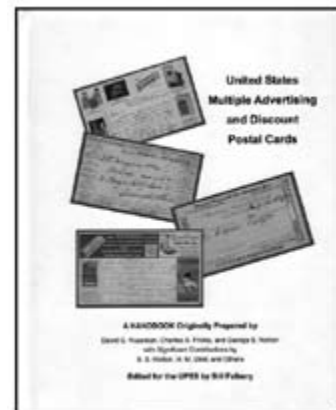
This handbook goes beyond the standard catalogue by establishing the relationship between the cards and card manufacturers, and explains who the businesses were and the products that they were selling at the time as shown in extensive advertiser collateral material. The material is classified as either company collateral, where advertising appears on multiple advertising cards, or format collateral,

which are advertising cards of single firms whose card format resembles the multiple advertising card formats. The book claims that the cards shown are typical for multiple advertising cards yet complement the presentation of these cards.

Handbooks are only useful if the material is available to make it a comprehensive resource. Falberg went to great lengths to solicit material in private collections for this book. The illustrations picture the entire card in crisp black and white scans. The catalogue format is concise and easy to understand with an outline in the beginning of the book tabulating the cards to be shown and conveniently called a table of contents. Falberg introduces the MA prefix for classifying multiple advertising and discount postal cards in the handbook with one-tier (letter) or two-tier (letter and number) identification for varieties. Each variety is also cross-referenced to Scott and UPSS catalogue numbers for the postal card on which the advertising appears. Commentary on dates of cards and historical perspective serve to place the cards in the context of the time period of their use.

One drawback of this excellent work is its size and binding, which may hinder its use at a stamp show. A bound book of this type does not open flat and its large size makes it bulky to handle. However this in no way detracts from its value as an important contribution to this area of postal card collecting.

— Al Carroccia



Finnish Catalogue Updated

LAPE Special Stamp Catalogue of Finland. 784 pages, 6¾ × 9¾ inches, perfect bound, stiff covers, color illustrations. ©2007 Philatelic Service of Finland, Turku, Finland. \$85 plus postage from Jay Smith & Associates, P. O. Box 650, Snow Camp NC 27349.

This specialized catalog of Finland is not published annually, but it remains an important resource for collectors of this country. The previous edition in 2004 was smaller in trim size and contained fewer pages. The larger size improves utility. The text still is mostly Finnish and Swedish, although each stamp subject is identified in English as well. Parts of the introductory material are also in all three languages.

Following a short description of prestamp mail, the early cancellations are valued for the straight line, boxed, single, and double-ring postmarks, and then 19th century stamped covers are listed for both domestic and foreign destinations.

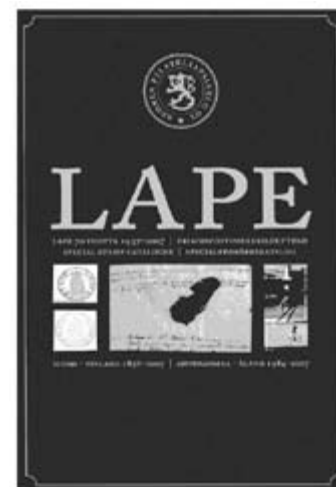
The stamp listings begin with the oval issues and the serpentine roulettes. The 19th century stamps are dealt with in some detail in all three languages. The stamp listing proceeds chronologically with significant descriptions of the major definitive series that touch on paper, watermarks, perforations, sheet layout,

gum, etc. Values are shown for mint, used, on cover, and first day covers. Issues through 2007 are included.

Following the stamp listings are personal stamps, official yearbooks and maximum cards, bus parcel stamps, field post, East Karelia, North Ingermanland, Aunus, stamp booklets including slot machine types, Frama labels for both Finland and Åland, Christmas seals, shipping company stamps, Helsinki and Tampere local post, railway stamps, revenues, perfin, postal stationery, rate tables (1875-2000), and commemorative cancels from 1920 to 1979.

The stamps of Åland (1984-2007) are then listed including the booklets, official year sets and maximum cards. All items are shown in color. The LAPE catalogs have been published for more than 70 years and this latest one will serve the collector of Finland and related areas extremely well.

— Alan Warren



Correspondence from On High

A Catalog of Himalayan Mountaineering Correspondence by Armand E. Singer and Robert F. Gould. 126 pages, 8½ × 11 inches, perfect bound, ©2007 George Alevizos, Topanga CA. Approximately \$50 plus postage from George Alevizos, P. O. Box 1408, Topanga CA 90290; www.TIBETANPOST.COM.

This is the second edition of a book originally published in 2002. It expands that listing and incorporates corrections to the earlier version. Rather than including a formal bibliography, the authors describe major sources for background information in a section following the preface, titled "Assignments, Responsibilities, and General Acknowledgments." This section defines the contribution of each author based on the strengths of their collections. A rarity scale, ranging from U for unique to C for common, is assigned to each entry.

The catalogue begins with a brief list of pioneer Himalayan climbers whose correspondence or autographs may be found. This was well before the introduction of souvenir covers with special cancels or cachets marking the events. The catalogue numbers are assigned chronologically to postal and related items for each climb, beginning with the 1921 survey party expedition. Black and white and occasional color, illustrations add greatly to the sense of history revealed by the entries that include photos, letters, souvenir cards, labels, and other items.

The first major listing is for the Mount Everest expeditions, beginning in the 1920s and highlighted with the famous 1924 British ex-

pedition. The additional listings in this section cover the Everest expeditions and attempts into the 1980s, and include stamps pertaining to Everest issued by several countries up to 2002.

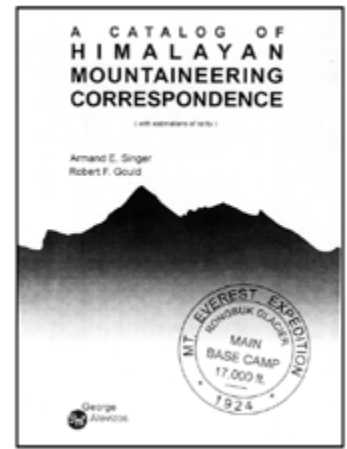
The next section covers Himalayan expeditions to peaks other than Everest, from 1929 to 1986, largely Gould's contribution to the book. Related stamp issues are listed through 1996. In both listings, specific expeditions are found in the chronological sequence by year. This

revised edition includes an alphabetical index of mountain names with catalogue year and item numbers associated with them. This index also shows the height of the named peaks in meters and feet.

The book lacks a proper title page to indicate publisher, and place and date of publication. The insertion of several illustrations with page numbers such as 105A alters the subsequent page numbering from the usual odd numbers on the right hand pages.

This book was one of the last contributions of the late Armand Singer to philatelic literature, and stands as a wonderful record of his Mount Everest collecting interests.

— Alan Warren



Swedish Postmuseum Yearbooks

Postryttaren 2006, *Postryttaren 2007*, *Postryttaren 2008* edited by Jan Billgren. 220, 160, and 168 pages respectively, 6½ x 9¾ inches, case bound, in Swedish with English summaries. Annual yearbooks published by the Postmuseum, Box 2002, 10311 Stockholm, Sweden. Issued to the Friends of the Postmuseum for an annual fee of approximately \$35.

Just as collectors look forward each year to the American Philatelic Congress books, many also eagerly await the yearbooks of the Swedish Postal Museum. Both annual publications reveal a diversity of topics that are quite engaging. The three latest editions of *Postryttaren* are the 56th, 57th, and 58th. The title is Swedish for post rider. **Volume 56, 2006** — This year marked the centenary of the Swedish Post Museum's opening in 1906. Editor Jan Billgren gives a brief profile of each of the museum's nine directors over the years. Erik Hamberg summarizes some of the major stamp donations made to the museum during this time. Other authors describe some of the major items in the museum's collections such as photographs, postal history objects, clothing worn by postal employees, and some of the rare stamps.

Another summary describes some of the outstanding exhibitions held at the museum during the previous century. 2006 was the 150th anniversary of the issuance of Sweden's black local stamps for use on mail within Stockholm and the surrounding area. Mats Ingers describes the stamps' production and postal history.

Volume 57, 2007 — The lead article by Robert Mattson and Björn Sylwan details new acquisitions to the museum's collections including a 22-pound book of proofs from the Post Office Stamp Department. The proofs are for many of Sweden's early issues. One unusual

addition pertains to the 1920 special airmail stamps consisting of Swedish officials overprinted *Luftpost*. The latest acquisition is a hitherto unknown trial overprint using the word *Flygpost* instead.

Fredrik Ydell describes the handling of mail by airship to Sweden and Finland during the period 1919–1930. The Zeppelin mails include the 1930 LZ127 Helsinki trip for which Finland issued the 1930 overprint to be used for that flight. Other articles in the 2007 book discuss the letter-writing of Carl Linnaeus, the abuse of the free letter privilege during the 17th and early 18th centuries, the story of Heinrich Lichtenstein who discovered the 3-skilling yellow error stamp, and a profile of Swedish engraver Majvor Franzén who produced nearly a 100 Swedish stamps between 1967 and 1987.

Volume 58, 2008 — This edition begins with Thorsten Sandberg's appreciation of the late engraver Czesław Slania, followed by editor Jan Billgren's review of the conformance by Nordic countries to the uniform stamp colors recommended by the Universal Postal Union. Other topics covered in this volume include the collecting of picture postcards, postmarks on early Swedish stamps, varieties of the Oscar II copperplate recess issues, 20th century Saturday and Sunday mail delivery, and Swedish philatelic periodicals that began publication during the period 1920–1949.

Illustrations in these three volumes are in color and have both Swedish and English captions. Brief English language summaries of the articles appear immediately after each article. Each volume ends with highlights of events at the museum during the preceding calendar year. These three issues of *Postryttaren* continue the fine tradition of scholarly articles on both classic and modern philately of Sweden.

— Alan Warren

Electronic Media

Pop Culture: Philately on YouTube

YouTube (www.YOUTUBE.COM) is one of the most popular sites on the Internet. Its sole purpose is to allow users from all over the world to upload their personal digital video content and share it globally. Anyone with a digital video recorder can edit their material, sign up for an account, and voilà, an audience of millions might see their digital efforts.

YouTube is not just for teenagers to share videos of themselves doing silly things or those wanting to show their cat dressed in costumes. You can view videos on YouTube that teach you to do just about anything from speaking Swahili, learning about Rembrandt paintings, or what happens when you combine Mentos candy with Diet Coke. In other words, just about any subject can and has been featured in a video. Those who want to watch videos will need a fast digital Internet connection, such as a cable modem or DSL. Watching videos on a dial up connection is futile and time consuming.

A philatelist can do many things with YouTube. There are numerous clips from people who have digitized their collections; eBay sellers can embed videos. JVC, and others, have introduced YouTube dedicated camcorders. Videos can be set to music. Anyone with a laptop can download a video, or download it to an mp3 video player, get an audio-visual cable and hook it into a TV to display it at a club meeting. Try searching on the words philately, stamp collecting, postage stamps, or stamp exhibits to find some neat videos.

Some videos are educational, offering informational aid to those who may not have a skilled expert around to show them the basics of philately. For example, Kenmore Stamp Company has a video about how to detect watermarks on stamps, www.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?v=RKGJEP_XSdQ It also has videos on how to mount and handle stamps and the use a perforation gauge.

Some videos have better images than others. Some well done Romanian philatelic images are set to folk music at www.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?v=TRGHXIDZZGY&FEATURE=RELATED.



www.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?v=TRGHXIDZZGY&FEATURE=RELATED. Personally, I enjoyed the stamp images more than the music. Images found in a medical stamps video were not nearly as high quality, www.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?v=YEQV4L28HNK&FEATURE=RELATED.

Some of the video editing in these exhibits is crudely done, and others are well done with smooth transitions between images.

One of the better visual exhibits is the *Rarest Stamps of Libya 1951*, www.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?v=QUT3KNZWRNo, posted by eBay seller Philatelicum, who has created many videos. Philatelicum also has an interesting topical video featuring *World Wildlife Stamps of Libya* and topical postcards of animals with matching stamps.

The beauty of YouTube is that the content constantly changes. If you look at all the exhibits today, there will be more in two weeks.

If you really want to be entertained, try *Classical Gas with Stamps*, www.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?v=QEMMBNHMTAK&FEATURE=RELATED. In three minutes hundreds of images change with the musical beat, including some gorgeous French art stamps.

— Heather Sweeting

The Demise of Newsgroup / Usenet Services

Several Internet service providers across the country, including Time Warner, Verizon, and Sprint — under pressure from New York Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo — recently chose to discontinue their newsgroup services or portions thereof. Cuomo's stated goal was to eliminate the free exchange of child pornography, although his action has produced unexpected results.

For those who have never used these groups, they are a portion of the Usenet (user network — www.USUNET.COM), an informational message board, where people all over the world can exchange queries (posts) and have online discussions. These groups are the predecessors to more recent Web logs (blogs) and message boards, which have proliferated. If you'd like a more in depth explanation, search on the Internet for Usenet newsgroup.

There are several stamp collecting-related groups including [ALT.REC.COLLECTINGSTAMPS.DISCUSS](http://alt.rec.collectingstamps.discuss) and [ALT.REC.COLLECTINGSTAMPS.MARKETPLACE](http://alt.rec.collectingstamps.marketplace), where a person with a Usenet Newsgroup reader or Microsoft Outlook can read and swap information. Sadly, the action by the Internet providers has terminated this service. If you have been an avid participant in these groups, it may no

longer be possible to visit your favorites unless you can find a free news server or pay for a subscription. Ask your Internet service provider if it will give you a discount since it is no longer providing the same level of service. You may not get one, but at least the provider will know that its customers are unhappy. What's next? Limiting the number of e-mails you can send or reducing your bandwidth so you can view fewer pages?

There is a way for those whose newsgroup service was discontinued to still participate in these discussions. Visit Google Groups at [HTTP://GROUPS.GOOGLE.COM](http://groups.google.com) and search on the word stamps.

The groups I mentioned will be listed in the list of groups. Then click on the group you would like to view. Some of the more recent discussion topics were: Danish philatelic translation, Slania engraved test booklets, imperforate St. Thomas souvenir sheets, and identifying an unknown overprint on French stamps. Have a question about a particular item? Odds are good that if you can post a picture of your item and ask your question in the group that someone in the world can answer it.

— Heather Sweeting

Journals & Newsletters

German Postal Specialist Entices Reader

Published monthly by the German Philatelic Society, 5½ × 8½ inches, saddle stitched, 50 pages, color. Editor James W. Graue, 11911 E. Connor Road, Valleyford, WA 99036; www.gps.nu.

After reading one issue of the *German Postal Specialist*, the reader is drawn into history, as it is the key to understanding the convoluted circles of this intriguing area. Collecting Germany means sorting out the different governments, the World War eras and the period between, the post war period, East and West Germany, and the current reunited Germany. Of course one also can collect German colonies or offices abroad. When you consider postal history, the options are infinite.

With such a broad area to cover, an editor faces a daunting task of soliciting material to cover all areas and quenching reader interests. The *German Postal Specialist* comes close to accomplishing this. Feature articles in one copy covered topics from the early part of the 20th century to the post World War II period. Graue surveyed Third Reich philately, disclosing the flexibility of this popular area. Even though the Third Reich period was brief, he argues that collecting opportunities are abundant — particularly in postal history with the many uses for these stamps and a variety of rates.

Another article examined the World War I Jutland naval battle through covers from the German ships that were sunk. The covers helped balance the article written by John R. Norris and kept the philatelic theme from being overtaken by too much history. Other

articles were written in the same manner. Unfortunately all of the feature articles were highly specialized and no general articles or essays were included. Even the single-page short essays were specialized. It would have been nice to see a refresher column written for the general collector or a synopsis of rates or issues. A new issues column introduced the latest stamps coming out of Germany. An article on the effects of PVC film on classic stamps was insightful.

Overall, the *German Postal Specialist* is a wonderful, compact source of information for the specialist. It is printed in color on coated paper. The illustrations are crisp, particularly photographs. The scans of covers are detailed and jump out. The layout makes it easy for the reader to follow with advertisements strategically placed at the beginning and end of the issue or after articles. Society news is abundant as is news from specialty and chapter clubs.

— Alfred Carroccia



Briefly Noted

THE CHINA CLIPPER is published bimonthly by the China Stamp Society, Inc. 8½ × 11 inches, saddle stitched, 30 pages. Editor Ralph Weil; www.chinastampsociety.org. With the Olympics being held in Beijing this August the Chinese have rolled out the red carpet to showcase to the world it is worthy of being the host. The China Stamp Society also jumped on the Olympics bandwagon to showcase Chinese philately through its *CHINA CLIPPER*. Each issue was chock full of society and chapter news from throughout the world. There are reviews of shows and awards along with details on the society library and ongoing efforts to archive records.

Articles are specialized in nature with clear illustrations in black and white. The subject matter primarily is from the early classic period and well written. However, the single-column layout not only wastes space, but is also tiresome on the reader's eyes. The center of the September 2007 issue contained an excellent map of the postal districts in Shanghai, but no notes or commentary to explain its significance.

THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY is published quarterly by the New Jersey Postal History Society. 8½ × 11 inches, saddle stitched, 58 pages. Editor Robert G. Rose; www.members.aol.com/~njpostalhistory/phsindex.htm.

Rates, cancels, and markings are the foundation of postal history and understanding its significance, especially from an historical perspective. Postal history, particularly at local level study of individual active and dead postoffices and their postmasters, provide a ripe opportunity for research. This is the theme of many articles.

Most are rich in providing information about New Jersey postoffices, especially the postmasters who operated them and their locations. Articles are profusely illustrated with excellent scans of covers and maps showing locations. These articles illustrate the need to document postoffice history, especially those that were discontinued. Other articles examined the express companies in New Jersey prior to the release of the first adhesives in 1847 and the post roads these companies used. An interesting item was the philatelic shorts, a one-paragraph synopsis of a cover or other related philatelic items.

A project to classify New Jersey manuscript cancels showing earliest and latest uses on covers in a database is also reported. This is an evolving project. There were a few articles on stamps including a concise article on New Jersey perfins and a detailed study of the 12 cent 1851 issue in New Jersey. One article on present day collecting examined New Jersey sprayed on markings. Each issue contained updated news on society happenings. The magazine layout was balanced between text and illustrations and each issue was three-hole punched for easy filing.

— Alfred Carroccia

Material for reviews may be sent to the editor. Reviews are also welcomed from others. Reviews should be concise and stress those aspects that are helpful examples (positive or negative) for other authors, editors, and publishers. Review requests from those having an interest in the item, such as publishers and distributors, must include a copy of the publication.



A Friendly Meeting Place

Scribblings editor Ron Hill, far left, confers with George Snyder in the stacks. The Mexico-Latin American Study Group, above, is one of a number of groups taking advantage of the meeting facilities.

RMPL — Continued from Cover

At the same time major efforts to achieve nonprofit certification were made, thus allowing donors to receive a tax exemption.

The passing of Joe Weinman and Bill Dunn and the illness of Jack Willard, reminds us that the other creators of the library remain evident and as supportive as ever. Vi Weinman and Sue Dunn, the latter a volunteer who also maintains our flower garden as a memorial to Bill, are evidence that the leadership is also a family affair. The stories of the past resound in all the developments: stamp clubs meeting at the library, major and not so major collections of stamps and literature, catalogues and miscellany; thousands of volumes available for research; and a growing publications and publicity program initiated by Ron Mitchell and Sergio Lugo, along with the outstanding library newsletter, *Scribblings*, originated by Don Beuthel, and printed and published by Roger Rydberg, later expanded by Ron Mitchell and now edited by Ron Hill.

Each one of these remarkable persons would merit an essay on their own — the creation of our logo by Bill Dunn's son; the donation of shelves, tables and furnishings by various members; the one-time member of Jack Willard's Boy Scout troop who improved the plumbing; the purchase of the carpet by square foot donations of many; the labor of renovating the building by Steve Schweighofer and Cliff Lushbough with the help of dozens of others; the recruiting of philatelic donations by Joe Weinman and other innovators; the vision to purchase a high quality color printer/copy machine making the newsletter, monographs and, now, even a new hard-cover book, assembled with Ron Mitchell's computer skills; our amazing map collection supervised by Bob Brown; and work by Sergio Lugo and his crew in the preparation for sale of the multitude of stamps donated to the library over the years.

Fiscal responsibility along with the amazing generosity of the library's members made it possible to pay off the mortgage in 2003.

Today, to the countless hours of labor by the Board of Direc-

tors under the leadership, first of Don Beuthel and now Ron Mitchell, are added the services of more than 30 volunteers who put in weekly shifts to keep the library open and the impressive venture it has become. Numerous stamp clubs meet at the library including the Scandinavian Collectors Club local chapter, whose national library is also maintained under the RMPL roof.

Thanks to Ellengail Beuthel our cataloguing will soon be going online — the first regional philatelic library to do so — with our books open to the world. New clubs are becoming viable thanks to the RMPL resource, the newest being the Machin Study Group that meets monthly at the RMPL.

Even more significantly, children and youth are being served and encouraged, thanks to many leaders, with efforts by Don Beuthel and George Wright from the very beginning and today led by Don Dhonau as coordinator of the monthly Youth Club with contacts with schools and youth organizations. RMPL is also very evident at stamp shows, with auctions and displays at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show and other local shows such as *APEX* and *CHERPEX*.

Rightly impressed with the present results of their dreams, the present leaders are acutely aware that the true evidence of all their efforts depends on the future. And the future is far from bleak: New members — now numbering well over 450 — assist with financing and publicity. The Board of Directors is discussing plans for future expansion and the possible need for a paid coordinator. All of these point to a vibrant Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library that confidently looks to many future decades and its silver anniversary in 2018.

Y'all come! We'll be there!



About the Author

The retired Rev. Peter W. F. Adgie commenced stamp collecting in the UK at age 10 (more than 65 years ago). He has been a member of several stamp clubs in Great Britain, New Zealand, and Colorado and has been a member of the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library for 10 years. Currently he specializes in Canal Zone, New Zealand specialties, and U.S. uncut press sheets.

2007 Chapter Activities Committee Newsletter Competition Awards

APS Chapter Activities Committee 2007 Newsletter Competition winning publications and their editors are:

Class I: Single Page

Vermeil

Driftwood, Long Beach Stamp Club, Lloyd Baumann,
Huntington Beach, CA

Silver–Bronze

Thames Stamp Club Newsletter, Thames Stamp Club, Tony Bruno,
East Lyme, CT

Class II: Multi-Page

Gold

PhilaNews, Brookfield Philatelic Society, Alan Vale, Danbury, CT
Prairie Stamp Views, Champaign-Urbana Stamp Club, Ed

Dueppen, Mahomet, IL

Chicago Philatelic Society Bulletin, Chicago Philatelic Society,
Randall Sherman, Chicago, IL

The Hamilton Hinge, Hamilton Township Philatelic Society, John
S. Sack, Hamilton, NJ

Knoxville Philatelic Society News, Knoxville Philatelic Society,
Thomas W. Broadhead, Knoxville, TN

The Shoe Box, Lakeshore Stamp Club, Inc., Raymond W. Ireson,
Roxboro, PQ, Canada

MSC Monthly Bulletin, Merchantville Stamp Club, Stephanos S.
Hadjijannis, Cherry Hill NJ

Stamping Around, Mid-Cities Stamp Club, Peter Elias, Plano, TX

The Postmaster, New Haven Philatelic Society, Campbell
Buchanan, Branford, CT

NEPPS Philatelic Inquirer, Northeast Pennsylvania Philatelic
Society, Rufus Wilson, Dalton, PA

Wichita Stamp Club Newsletter, Wichita Stamp Club, Neal E.

Danielson, Wichita, KS

Vermeil

Stamping About Town, Charlottesville Stamp Club, William W.
Sihler, Keswick, VA

The Fort Orange Philatelist, Fort Orange Stamp Club, Maris
Tirums, Albany, NY

Milwaukee Philatelist, Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Inc., Carol
Schutta, Milwaukee, WI

Stamping Around, Mountain Home Area Stamp Club, Lorraine
Burdick, Mountain Home, AR

Graebner Gazette, Robert C. Graebner Chapter AFDCS, Rollin F.
Berger, Jr., Clifton, VA

Saugeen Stamp Club Bulletin, Saugeen Stamp Club, Ralph
Wyndham, Lucknow, ON, Canada

Silver

Calgary Philatelist, Calgary Philatelic Society, Dale Speirs,
Calgary, AB, Canada

The Chattanooga Stamp Chronicle, Chattanooga Stamp Club,
Willis Monk, Old Fort, TN

Huntsville Philatelic Club Newsletter, Huntsville Philatelic Club,
Arthur J. Cole, Huntsville, AL


South Miami Stamp Club Newsletter, South Miami Stamp Club,
Enrique Setaro, Miami, FL

Silver–Bronze

Hollywood Philatelist, Hollywood Stamp Club, Enrique Setaro,
Miami, FL

West Suburban Stamp Club Newsletter, West Suburban Stamp
Club, Sandra Strzalkowski, Redford, MI

Wilkesburg Stamp Club News, Wilkesburg Stamp Club,
William A Badali, Pittsburgh, PA

Applications for the 2008 competition are available from Jane
King Fohn, 10325 Little Sugar Creek, Converse, TX 78109. 

Hall of Fame — Continued from Page 5

for 18 years, a columnist for *Stamp Collector*, and a contributor to *Duck Stamp and Print Forum* and *Duck Tracks*, the NDSCS journal. In all, he has more than 250 published articles to his credit.

He is the publisher of *The Duck Report* and is a regular contributor to that publication. He was also the force behind the duck stamp listings in the *Scott Specialized Catalogue* and has been an expert contributor ever since. He publishes eight annual auction catalogues. In total, he has published more than 70 public auction and 225 mail auction catalogs. He also publishes and edits the *Duck Stamp and Print Catalogue*, a biennial retail price catalogue.

Dumaine is the founder, of the National Duck Stamp Collectors Society, a former American Stamp Dealers Association board member and a Federal Duck Stamp Contest judge.

Robin M. Startup


The name of **Robin M. Startup** of Masterton, New Zealand, is synonymous with New Zealand postal history. The New Zealand native was first noticed by many outside of that country when he was the driving force behind the launch of the Postal History Society of New Zealand in the early 1960s. He was the founder–editor of its journal,

The Mail Coach, and contributes articles regularly.

He has contributed to or written more than 60 books and has written well over 1,000 articles on various subjects. Although his studies are generally limited to New Zealand postal history, he has published in the journals of a number of other countries, particularly the United Kingdom and the United States.

As historian for New Zealand Post, he has access to many records that others might not know to exist. In this capacity, he is generous in offering his help to researchers who may wish to contact him looking for answers to questions on New Zealand postal history.

His writing and studies led to his being awarded the rare FIP Medal for Research in 2000. More recently, he was selected to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. Over his many years in philately, he has served in virtually every administrative capacity in the various philatelic organizations in New Zealand.

Startup's work frequently draws on his personal collection of postal history and markings. His current efforts involve a project that will cover the Colonial Post from 1840 to 1860, which is a major challenge since two fires destroyed most of the critical records. Nevertheless, he has been able to examine and copy some 4,500 sheets of documents in the National Archives, containing a total of 10,000 document notes or references. 

NAPEX 2008 Literature Awards

Winners of literature awards at NAPEX 2008 on June 6–8 have been announced. Judges were Alan Warren, chair; Michael D. Dixon; and John Hotchner.

Grand Award and Gold

U.S. Contract Mail Routes by Water (Star Routes 1824–1875),
Collectors Club of Chicago, Hugh V. Feldman, author

Noncompetitive Exhibits

Vatican Notes Volume 56, Vatican Philatelic Society, Daniel A. Piazza, editor

EnRoute Volume 15, Smithsonian National Postal Museum

The William H. Gross Collection: United States Classics, 1847–1869, William H. Gross and the Collectors Club of New York
Guide to Stamp Collecting, HarperCollins Publishers, Janet Klug, author

The Sovereign Collection: Postage Stamps of the British Commonwealth and Western Europe, Smithsonian National Postal Museum

Handbooks and Special Studies

Gold

The Turbulent Decade: Georgia's Post Offices, 1860–1869, Francis J. Crown, Jr., author

Index to Congress Books No. 1–No. 72 (1935–2006), American Philatelic Congress, David L. Herendeen, author; John Kevin Doyle, editor

The Liberty Series, American Philatelic Society, Ken Lawrence, C. David Eeles, and Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz, authors

Definitive Postage Stamps of Canada, 1953–2005: An Analytical Approach, Joseph Monteiro, author

A Short History of the Rossica Society, 1929–1968, Rossica Society of Russian Philately, David M. Skipton, author

Japanese Post Offices Using the Maruichi Postmark, 1888–1909 (CD-ROM), Charles A. L. Swenson, author

The Congress Book 2007, American Philatelic Congress, Ken Trettin, editor

Revenue Stamps of Norway and Related Non-Fiscal Issues, Bjørn Kristian Wang, author

U.S. Three Cent 1851 Essays for Postage Stamps (and Related Topics) (CD-ROM), U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, Roy Weber, author

Camp Genter: Colorado Ghost Town Mail, Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, John H. Willard and Sergio Lugo, authors

2008 Durland Standard Plate Number Catalog, United States Stamp Society, Len Piskiewicz, compiler; W. Wallace Cleland, editor

Vermeil

Women on Stamps Volume 5, American Topical Association (ATA), Helen Cockburn, author

Winfred Milton Grandy: A Philatelic Biography (CD-ROM), Joseph P. Connolly and Sean P. Connolly

Tips on Types Second Edition, Robbin Dick, author

Indo-China Revenue Stamp Catalog, second edition, Society of Indo-China Philatelists

United States Post Offices Volumes 1–8, La Posta Publications, Richard W. Helbock, author

Soviet Occupation of Poland, 1939–1941: A Postal History, third edition, Chris Kulpinski, author

Collection of Articles Originally Published in "EFO Collector", Joseph Monteiro, author

Levy's Boy and Girl Scout Cachet Covers of the United States, Volumes I and II: 1910–1960 second edition, Scouts on Stamps Society International, Jay L. Rogers, author

Silver

Postal Cards and Aerogrammes of the Vatican City State, Albert A. Antonellis, author

Postal History of the Powell Bros. Livestock Emporium, Halifax Trading, Ltd., Norman A. Cohen, author

Watercraft on Stamps II, ATA, Katherine A. Kirk, author

Stamps of the Polar Worlds, Frank R. Michel, author

Handbook of Perforated or Punched Initials, Numbers, and/or Designs in U.S. Revenues, Arthur J. Mongan, editor; also awarded the State Revenue Society gold medal

The W. G. MacFarlane Picture Postcard Handbook, 1902–1910, Michael J. Smith, author

Periodicals

Gold

American Revenuer Volume 61, American Revenue Association
Kenneth Trettin, editor

Penny Post Volume 15, Carriers and Locals Society, Larry Lyons, editor

Rossica 2007, Rossica Society of Russian Philately, Jeff Radcliffe, editor

Texas Philatelist Volume 55, Texas Philatelic Association, Douglas Moss, editor

Vermeil

British Caribbean Philatelic Journal Volume 48, British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, Everett Parker, editor

Czechoslovak Specialist Volume 69, Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Ludvik Z. Svoboda, editor

First Days Volume 52, American First Day Cover Society, Richard L. Sine, editor

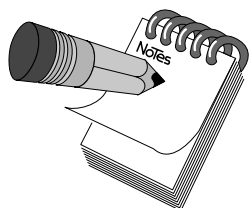
Silver

Graebner Gazette Volume 7, Robert C. Graebner Chapter #17 AFDCS, Rollin F. Berger, Jr., editor

Speleophilately Nos. 79–81, Speleophilately International, Jan Paul van der Pas, editor

Silver-Bronze

Greater Richmond Stamp Club newsletter, Juanita Cerillo, editor



Secretary-Treasurer's Report

August 1, 2008

State of Our Membership

Writers Unit #30 continues efforts to expand its membership base. I mailed dues notices on December 30, 2007, and all but 12 have paid their dues. Seven have paid for multiple years — four through 2009, two through 2010, and one through 2011.

Membership now stands at 229 with 12 in Canada, one in Mexico, and nine overseas. Unfortunately we have not offset the 12 members we dropped for non-payment of dues and the four who have died. Only nine new members have been recruited since January 1.

The editor and I suggest that members continue their recruitment efforts for new members — “every member find a member.”

We commenced 2008 with a balance of \$6,760 and have since added \$3,490 in membership dues plus \$95 contributions made by six members. Printing and mailing four issues of *The Philatelic Communicator* during the past 12 months have averaged \$796 per issue, up from \$758 per issue for the preceding 12 months due to the increase of postage rates. If the postage rates continue to rise, it will be necessary to increase the membership dues.

Since odd-numbered years are WU #30 election years, we will publish a Call for Nominations in the First Quarter 2009 issue of *The Philatelic Communicator* and the ballot will be published in the Second Quarter 2009 issue. Alan Warren is chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Change of Address

0228 Daniel C. Warren, 1512 Steuben Road, Gloucester Point, VA 23062-2009

Reinstated

1922 Ronald H. Hill, 7590 West Caley Drive, Littleton, CO 80123-3016

Deceased

Joan Helen Griffenhagen, the wife of the secretary-treasurer, died on June 23. Her death came a full year after her diagnosis of cancer, and two days before the 62nd anniversary of their wedding. A complete obituary is on page 4 of this issue.

WU #30 Board Meeting

The Writers Unit #30 Board will meet at 10 a.m. on August 17 during *STAMPSHOW 2008*. Details in the president's column on page 3.

About Writers Unit #30

The purpose of the Writers Unit #30 of the APS is to encourage and assist philatelic communication, knowledge, and comradeship. Membership is open to any philatelic writer, columnist, editor, or publisher — and anyone interested in philatelic communication.

Join Us Today

Join Writers Unit #30 now and begin reaping the benefits of membership, including your subscription to *THE PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR*. Applications received before October 1 will be recorded as members for that calendar year and these members will receive all issues of *THE PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR* for the calendar year.

Applications received on or after October 1 will be recorded as members for the following calendar year.

An application may be downloaded at www.wu30.org.

Membership Dues

USPS ZIP Code Addresses..... \$15.00

Canada and Mexico \$17.50

All Other Addresses..... \$20.00

Payment must be made in U.S. funds by a check imprinted with a U.S. bank transit number, or by postal money order, payable to *APS Writers Unit #30*. Some overseas members prefer to send U.S. bank notes by certified mail.

Updating Your Mailing Address

Please notify us of address changes to assure that you receive each issue of *THE PHILATELIC COMMUNICATOR* without delay. This will also save WU #30 more than \$1.00 because the USPS charges 70 cents when they have to send us an address correction, and we still have to pay the postage for reshipping the issue to the member.

*George B. Griffenhagen, WU #30 Secretary-Treasurer
2501 Drexel St., Vienna, VA 22180-6906*

Philatelic Communicator Advertising Rate Card

We can accept camera-ready copy or create an ad for you.

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Horizontal 7.33 × 4.7 inches, 44 × 28p6 picas

Quarter Page — \$35 • 3.6 × 4.6 inches, 21p6 × 28p6 picas

Deadlines January 15, April 15, July 15, October 15

Contact the editor at 813-962-7964; e-mail astarkweather@wu30.org

Writers Unit #30, APS
George B. Griffenhagen
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Articles

Peter W. F. Adgie: *Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library Turns 15*..... 1

George Griffenhagen's Wife Dies at 814



Writers Unit 2008 Hall of Fame Inductees.....5

Francis Adams: *PowerPoint Imaging for Digital References and Studies*.....6

2007 Newsletter Competition Awards17

NAPEX 2008 Literature Awards.....18

Advertisements

Writers Unit #30 Breakfast.....3

StampExpo 400.....9

Advertising Rate Card19

Departments

Editor's Domain: *Morality Cannot Be Legislated*.....2

President's Message: *STAMPSHOW 2008 & WU #30 Breakfast*.....3

Short Takes: News & Commentary4

Letters to the Editor.....4

Reviews

Books & Catalogues

Camp Genter: Colorado Ghost Mail10

Handbook of Aeropostal History of Chile 1916–2006.....10

Moving Mail by Steamboat.....11

Postcards of Antarctic Expeditions.....11

U.S. Multiple Advertising and Discount Postal Cards.....12

LAPE Special Stamp Catalogue of Finland.....12

A Catalog of Himalayan Mountaineering Correspondence.....13

Swedish Postmuseum Yearbooks13

Electronic Media

Pop Culture: Philately on YouTube14

The Demise of Newsgroup/Usenet Services.....14

Journals & Newsletters

German Postal Specialist Entices Reader.....15

Briefly Noted

China Clipper.....15

Journal of the New Jersey Postal History Society.....15

Secretary–Treasurer's Report.....19